

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1596 – HB 1456

January 28, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires all methamphetamine-related charges for the manufacture, delivery, sale, or possession of a controlled substance or for simple possession be charged under a specific subsection and mention that methamphetamine was involved. The bill does not affect the penalty for any current offense.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (011670): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Creates a new section in the criminal code through which certain methamphetamine drug charges must be brought.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Currently simple possession/casual exchange offenses are codified under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-418 and manufacture/delivery/sell/possession with intent to distribute offenses are codified under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-417.
- The bill as amended removes the offenses related to meth out of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 39-17-417 and -418 and codifies them in a new section.
- The bill as amended does not affect the penalty or classification of any current crime. It merely requires the charging entity to charge meth-related drug offenses under a single section of Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4.
- According to the District Attorneys General Conference, the District Public Defenders Conference, and the Administrative Office of the Courts, the bill will not increase criminal caseloads in Tennessee.
- Any impact to the courts, the district attorneys, and public defenders can be accommodated within existing resources.

SB 1596 – HB 1456

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/trm